



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

MEETING MINUTES

West Hartford Clean Energy Commission

July 10, 2017

7:00 PM

Rm 422

1. Roll Call – 7:05 PM

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	X	Robert Palmer	
Chris Nelson	X	Dave Mello	X
Joe Campanella	X	Vacant	
Bernie Pelletier	X		
Max Dubuisson	X		
Total	(3 needed for quorum)		
Additional Attendees	Jim Henkel, Ted Loewenthal, Dan Tavelli, Jack Wright, Shubhada Kambli, Gerry Hayes		

2. Introductions

Shubhada Kambli, Hartford's new Sustainability Coordinator, introduced herself and gave an introduction to the Climate Action Plan that Hartford is releasing soon. <https://hartfordclimate.wordpress.com/>

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. June 12, 2017 - approved

4. Communications/Administration

- a. Commission Alternate – James Capella nominee

Waiting for James's resume to submit recommendation to Town Council.

5. Ongoing Business

- a. WH Community TV recap

Bernie and Catherine participated in a Community TV show called "Inside Out" with John Bonee. They discussed the energy projects that the town is working on and how residents can conserve energy. The episode aired on WHCTV Channel 5 throughout July and is available on YouTube [here](#).

- b. 100PercentCT Project Update

Bernie shared updates on the 100PercentCT project. He shared his estimates on the amount of energy WH can conserve with efficiency, and the amount WH would need from renewables to achieve 100% renewable energy use.

- c. Website – content update www.westhartfordct.gov/cleanenergy

Jack is updating several parts of the website including the landing page, the News page, and the WHPS Culture of Conservation page. Updates will continue through August.

- d. Solarize with Faith & CT Green Bank Biz Letters

Solarize with Faith letter, signed by Catherine, Chris, and the Mayor has been finalized. SmartPower is sending to houses of worship in West Hartford to promote recruit participants.

Catherine is working with CT Green Bank and Eversource to send out letters (co-signed by WH-CEC and Mayor) to local businesses with the intention of increasing C-PACE participation. A select number of free energy audits will be given out for free on a first come, first serve basis. CT Green Bank selected the auditor

(NorthEast Energy Designs & Solutions) through a competitive selection process. Eversource may be able to help provide data on which businesses are most suitable for C-PACE projects. The letters are still in the draft stage. The planned rollout for this project is the end of summer, early fall.

6. New Business

a. Quantum Bio Tour recap

A group of Town employees (Public Works, Plant & Facilities, Nutrition Services, including Catherine and Jack) toured the new Quantum Biopower plant in Southington, CT. This fall, food waste from all WHPS kitchens and 5 participating schools will be sent to this plant to be digested and generate electricity. Rest of schools will be brought online later in year. (Food Diversion Study from consultant Center for Eco Technology is much later than expected.)

WH-CEC Members and several WHPS teachers/parents will tour on July 12.

Catherine will look into getting a presentation tool of some sort that would show food waste at various stages of digestion.

b. July 31 lightbulb give-a-way (Town Hall lobby)

On July 31, WH-CEC will host a table in the Town Hall lobby from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm to give away one LED per WH resident. We chose this day because property taxes are due the next day so many residents will be walking through Town Hall. We are looking for volunteers—contact Jack if you're able to help.

c. WH-CEC Banner

Jack presented three options for different material types for a new WH-CEC banner. The first option was a recyclable PET banner for \$65. The second option was a recyclable HDPE banner for \$73. The third option was a biodegradable banner for \$80. No decision was made at the meeting. Jack will look into more options, particularly the EcoPhab material, which was used for the previous banner. People were more interested in the recycled material content of the banner, than the recycling options and its end of life.

d. Energy Plan

- **Progress to date / vision & goals**

Catherine and Jack presented the progress on the energy plan to date. Commission members gave important feedback including:

- We should mention that others have set 100% by 2050 visions.
- The hierarchy of vision, goals, strategies, and actions.
- The importance of including quantitative measurements where possible.
- Making the plan engaging, user-friendly, and concise (SHORT!).

- **July 17 special meeting, 7-9 PM, Rm 422**

Because there is so much to discuss with this plan, the WH-CEC will hold a "Special Session" on July 17, 7-9 pm in Rm. 422 to focus solely on the energy plan update.

7. Adjournment – 9:15 PM